

Northern Central Railroad  
Baltimore Freight House  
(Calvert Station)  
Culford and Centre Sts.  
Baltimore  
Maryland

HAER No. MD-38

HAER  
MD,  
4-BALT,  
143-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
MD-38  
NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD, BALTIMORE FREIGHT SHED  
(CALVERT STATION)

HAER  
MD,  
4-BALT,  
143-

Date: C.1860

Location: Guilford and Centre Sts. Baltimore, Maryland.

Built by: Northern Central Railroad

Owned by: Originally, Northern Central Railroad  
As of 1971, J. H. Williams Inc.

Significance: The Baltimore Freight Shed, built by the Northern Central Railroad, is a rare example of composite timber and iron roof construction of the mid 19th century. The roof structure is comprised of a series of tricomposite trusses with timber top chords, wrought iron tension rods and cast iron compression members. This use of both timber and iron in the same roofing system formed a transition period between short span timber trusses and longer span iron and steel trusses that would be in widespread use by the end of the century.

Transmitted by Dan Clement, 1983.